Selection Grade to Group D' Employees of National Gallery of **Modern Art**

3524. SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the Teply to Unstarred Question 247 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25% February, 1987 and state:

(a) whether in pursuance of the orders dated 22nd May, 1986 the benefit giving selection grade to Group 'D' employees with retrospective effect from lst August, 1976, has since been allowed to the Gallery Attendants of the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi;

(b) if not. what are the reasons therefor and what measures are being taken *to* implement these orders without further delay; and

(c) what action is being taken against the officials responsible for non-implementation of these orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. All the eligible Group 'D' employees (including Gallery Attendants) of the National Gallery of Modern Art have been sanctioned Selection Graoe with effect from 1.8.76.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Chhitauni-Bagha Railway Bridge

3525. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is. a fact that foundation stone of a railway bridge at Chhitauni-Bagha joining Eastern Uttar Pradesh and North Bihar was laid on 22nd October. 1973 by the then Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi and it was declared that the work would be completed within five years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for non-completion of the work even after 14 years of laying its foundation stone;

(c) what is the total expenditure incurred so far on the work and what is the percentage of escalation in its cost due to delay in its completion; and

(d) what is the present position slating the progress made and by when the bridge is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) At the time of laying foundation stone, no completion schedule was committed.

(b) and (d) The Ministry of Irrigation had suggested in 1973 that Railways could take advantage of the Flood Control Point to be provided at Chhitauni for construction of **a** bridge across Gandak River. The cost of the flood protection works was agreed to be shared by Ministry o£ Irrigation and Governments of U.P. and Bihar. The initial deposit was also made by them.

When the scheme was finalised and the cost updated in 1982, the Ministry of Irrigation did not agree to bear their increased share of cost, on the plea that it was no longer a priority flood control work. Government of Bihar asked for refund of their deposit and withdrew their participation. Response from Government of U.P. has not been forthcoming.

The Planning Commission, while reviewing this project in view of the stand taken by the Ministry of Irrigation and State Governments, recommended its closure. The work on the bridge has, therefore not commenced: No time schedule for completion can therefore be indicated.

(c) Expenditure incurred so far was only for rail link from Bagaha to Val-mikinagar and it is Rs. 2.86 crores approximately. The escalation in cost of the bridge from 1974 to 1982 when the cost was last updated was 427 per cent.